

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 1, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 198

Introduced by Assembly Member Gordon

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Arambula, Atkins, Baker, Bigelow, Bloom, Bonilla, Bonta, Brown, Burke, Calderon, Chang, Chau, Chávez, Chiu, Chu, Cooley, Cooper, Dahle, Daly, Dodd, Eggman, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Gallagher, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gatto, Gipson, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gray, Grove, Hadley, Harper, Holden, Irwin, Jones-Sawyer, Kim, Lackey, Levine, Lopez, Low, Maienschein, Mathis, Mayes, McCarty, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, Nazarian, Obernolte, O'Donnell, Olsen, Patterson, Quirk, Rendon, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Salas, Steinorth, Mark Stone, Thurmond, Ting, Wagner, Weber, Wilk, Williams, and Wood)

June 20, 2016

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 198—Relative to sun safety.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 198, as amended, Gordon. Sun safety.

This measure would encourage teaching sun safety practices to children to enable them to identify the importance of sun safety, practice strategies to protect against the harmful effects of the sun, and understand why and how to stay safe from overexposure to the sun.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The chief cause of skin cancer is exposure to
- 2 ultraviolet (UV) rays from natural sunlight and artificial sources;
- 3 and

1 WHEREAS, At least one in five Americans will develop skin
2 cancer in his or her lifetime and one American dies every hour
3 from the disease; and

4 WHEREAS, During October 2014, the United States Department
5 of Health and Human Services, in its 13th Report on Carcinogens,
6 classified solar radiation, which includes UV rays, as a “known
7 human carcinogen” or cancer-causing agent; and

8 WHEREAS, Skin cancer is by far the most common cancer
9 found among California residents; and

10 WHEREAS, In California, new cases of skin cancer are roughly
11 equal to the total number of new cases of all other types of cancer
12 combined; and

13 WHEREAS, In addition to causing skin cancer, unprotected
14 exposure to sunlight can cause eye damage and premature aging
15 of the skin; and

16 WHEREAS, A child’s skin is more vulnerable to harmful UV
17 rays than an adult’s skin; and

18 WHEREAS, Up to 50 percent of a person’s lifetime sun
19 exposure can occur during childhood and adolescence; and

20 WHEREAS, Sunburns, especially in childhood, increase the
21 chances that a person will develop skin cancer; and

22 WHEREAS, Skin cancer is highly preventable when sun safety
23 practices are adopted, such as the use of wide-brimmed hats,
24 UV-protective sunglasses, long clothing, and sunscreen,
25 supplemented by environmental supports, including the provision
26 of shade and the adoption and implementation of sun protection
27 guidelines and policies; and

28 WHEREAS, Children, who are more vulnerable, need to
29 understand why and how to guard against unprotected exposure
30 to the sun; now, therefore, be it

31 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
32 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature encourages teaching sun
33 safety practices to children to enable them to identify the
34 importance of sun safety, practice strategies to protect against the
35 harmful effects of the sun, and understand why and how to stay
36 safe from overexposure to the sun; and be it further

37 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
38 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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